

METHOD OF IMPLANTING A SELF-MOLDING ANNULOPLASTY RING

Abstract of the Disclosure

A method of implanting a resilient self-molding annuloplasty ring including
5 stretching it to an expanded diameter and attaching it to a heart valve annulus, then
permitting the ring to contract to reduce the diameter of the annulus. The ring may be
positioned on an insertion device that maintains the ring in its expanded diameter while
attaching to the annulus. The resilient self molding annuloplasty ring which may be
enlarged prior to implantation to facilitate implantation within a dilated or otherwise
10 incompetent valve annulus having sufficient contractive force to render a valve
competent. The self molding annuloplasty ring of the invention may further comprise
integral attachment devices to aid in the implantation process.